L'Edge

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MEETING ON THE EDGE

by MEGAN KIRK

WE HOPE that this NCYC will see people share and learn from one another; share and live in unity," says Pastor Norm Baxter, State Chairperson for the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress of South Australia

This is the vision for NCYC '95 that he shares with Mark Dickens, the Aboriginal Task Group Director. The two are working together to make this dream come true.

Encouraging Aboriginal people to attend NCYC is one of the Task Group's central goals. They hope that NCYC will be a life changing experience, both for themselves and for others. Mark outlines the three main aspirations that the task group has for Aboriginal delegates:

- That delegates and leaders from every State will participate in NCYC and gain from the experience.
- That Aboriginal delegates will be part of NCYC by contributing to the event itself, so that others may receive something from their participation.
- That Aboriginal people will have a voice in the program, rather than just experience the event.

Organisers hope that, through NCYC, people will gain a better understanding of Aboriginal people, their culture, and the problems which they've encountered in both the past and the present.

"We want to encourage Aboriginal people with skills in storytelling, dancing, music, preaching and teaching to participate in the convention," says Norm.

One way that NCYC delegates will be given this opportunity is through the Aboriginal Space.

The Aboriginal Space will be an informal meeting place where both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people can gather and share their experiences with others.

"Aboriginal people should also be able to have an input into the worship times in the communities," says Mark.

The NCYC Festival, which is about experiencing and celebrating all aspects of the arts, will also involve a number of different cultures. It is hoped that all participants will share their artistic gifts through this celebration of the arts.

NCYC will provide Aboriginal people with the opportunity to come to the edge. But most importantly, as Norm Baxter said, "it will bring a better understanding and build relationships."

And that is what NCYC is all about!

WORN AROUND THE EDGES

This design was painted by Aboriginal artist, Kerry Giles. Her family background is in South Australia's Lower Murray and Coorong region. These areas are represented by the black swans and cliff face. This design features on a range of NCYC T-shirts which sell for $20. All money raised assists Aboriginal delegates to attend the convention.

TIME is running OUT to register for NCYC'95
Final payments due NOV 30

NCYC '95
(The National Christian Youth Convention) is an activity of the Uniting Church in Australia.

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NCYC '95 MISSION STATEMENT

"To construct a community which so reflects the Kingdom of God that people will be changed."

Food, glorious food

Adrienne Treloar: "I want to help people understand Aboriginal people."

Meeting heaps of people

ADRIENNE Treloar is preparing to attend NCYC. Her aim is to "meet heaps of people".

When she's not busy studying Aboriginal Administration at the University of South Australia, Adrienne is working with NCYC's Aboriginal Task Group.

"My role at NCYC is to be there for Aboriginal people as well as all other delegates.

"I hope that it will be easier for Aboriginal delegates to identify with me. I will be there to encourage them to ask questions, as they may initially be shy and embarrassed with others. I want to be there so they don't feel so alone."

Adrienne also hopes that NCYC will build bridges of understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

"People know about Aboriginal people, but they don't know a lot about their culture.

"I want to help people understand Aboriginal people. I know there's still a lot more for me to learn."

— Megan Kirk

Electives

DELEGATES accommodated at the Adelaide Gaol will explore social justice issues. But other delegates will also have the opportunity to be challenged about the injustices in our society.

A wide selection of electives has been put together to address social justice issues as well as attitudes and opportunities.

The *Social Justice - Just do it* elective will be a simulation game aimed at helping delegates understand some of the justice issues the poor in our society face.

Imagining the Future Church will encourage participants to use their imagination as they plan for a more relevant witness in a rapidly changing world.

With over fifteen different electives with a social justice theme being offered every day of the convention, the elective program is diverse enough to appeal to a wide range of people, interested in the many different facets of social justice.

If you want to be challenged to the edge of your comfort zones, NCYC '95 is going to be the place. Make sure you register for your electives soon.

—Lisa Chapman

by DAVID GARDINER

NEVER mind the speakers, never mind the venues, let's get down to the things that matter. What will the food be like at NCYC '95?

Now I'm a *L'Edge* writer who appreciates good food. Take pie-floaters for example. I like them for breakfast, lunch and tea!

Feeding up to 3,000 delegates is a tall order on any waiter's pad. The Catering Task Group was formed to assist with this huge task.

Whether you are staying at a tent city or college, breakfast will be provided in your community. This could include toast, cereal, fruit, porridge, baked beans and spaghetti, scrambled eggs, and (if you're lucky) pie floaters.

I spoke to Beth Brice, of the catering task group, about lunch. She said she had already eaten. I then asked her about the lunches for NCYC!

"Lunch will be catered for at Scotch College (the main venue of NCYC during the day). We're planning a varied menu that will appeal to all tastes."

She confirmed that special dietary requirements, such as vegetarian meals, will be catered for. The menu will also cater for delegates from overseas.

Beth has had some experience in feeding people. (Actually, that's a bit of an understatement). She recently helped organise the Uniting Church cafeteria at the Royal Adelaide Show — feeding about 8,000 hungry people.

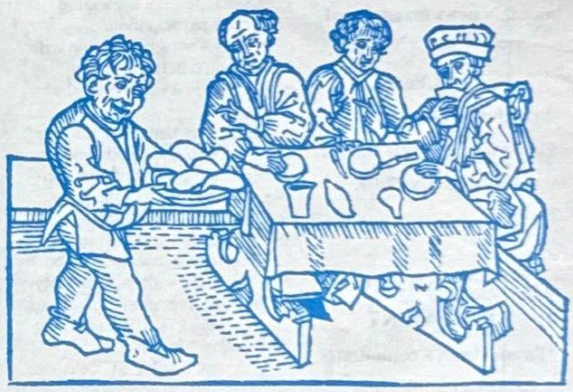
For those with never-ending appetites, I spoke to Terry Parson who is organising snack food.

"Throughout the convention we will sell soft drinks, tea and coffee, and hot dogs. On the Wednesday (Festival Day) we will also have a sausage sizzle, steaks, kranskis, Chinese, kebabs, hot potatoes and ice creams."

He also mentioned that they need volunteers to help serve on the Wednesday. (If you can help, contact Stu or Rebecca at the NCYC office.)

Tea (or dinner for the more refined) will be quite an impressive affair. It will be catered for by the Adelaide Convention Centre in the adjoining Exhibition Hall. Around 2,000 people all sitting down to a meal together should be something to remember. (I hope they have a long table!)

So your stomachs may rest easy in the knowledge that the "ministry to the interior" will be well and truly catered for at NCYC '95.



L'EDS

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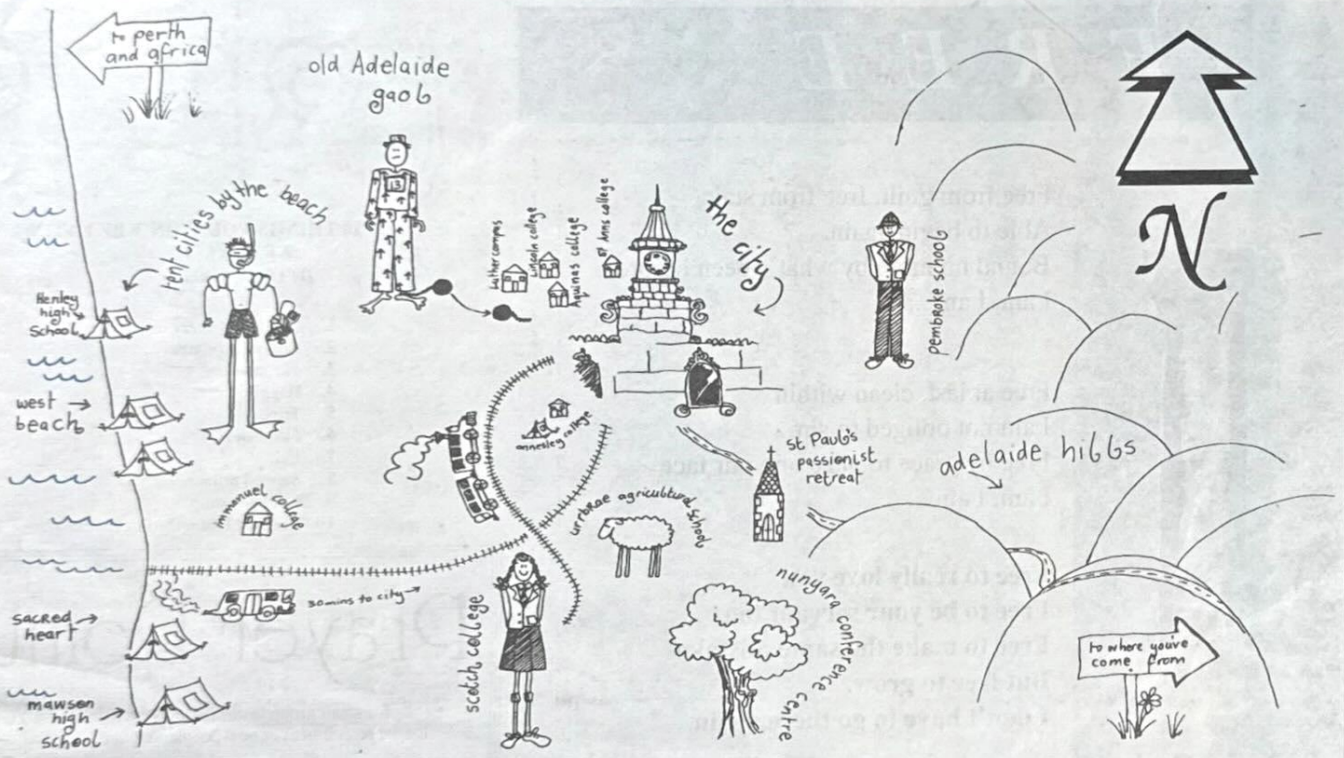


Wondering where we'll be?

I'M not really big on surprises and I dislike not knowing things. I certainly don't like the idea of coming to NCYC in January knowing nothing, so I took it upon myself to find out a little more about the venues for NCYC '95.

A typical day will begin with breakfast in your community — either a tent city (beachside or near a pool), a college (sockets for your hairdryer), or the Old Adelaide Gaol. Delegates will spend the entire morning in their communities, before commuting to Scotch College for the afternoon program.

I've checked out Scotch College and it's a fantastic venue! (Although on my last visit a lone bagpiper wandered aimlessly around the grounds in full kilt regalia. Let's hope he's not in the habit of doing this at 3 am.)

After electives and free time, delegates will catch a special NCYC train into the heart of Adelaide. They will feast on a sit-down dinner in the massive Exhibition Hall (seats 2,000), before moving on to the Convention Centre for the night rallies. Depending on which night of the week it is, delegates will then either remain in the Convention Centre complex (and nearby venues) or return to their community for nightlife activities.

I'm now much more confident about attending NCYC and hope that I have laid a few of your fears to rest. Of course, if you like surprises, you probably shouldn't have read this article, as I've no doubt ruined it for you ... oops!

— Lisa Chapman

THE CUTTING EDGE

Choose your NCYC electives

IF you have registered for NCYC '95, you will receive your elective book in October.

This book contains a list of NCYC electives, and a description of each. There's a great choice. Make sure you send your reply form back ASAP.

White Eddies now available!

IF you thought the milk chocolate Eddies were delicious — wait until your tastebuds savour the new white chocolate Eddies.

Eddie, the official NCYC fundraising chocolate, is simply irresistible! He was even on sale at the Royal Adelaide Show in September.

To order boxes of chocolate Eddies contact the convention office.

Funds needed

CAN you, your church, or your youth group support someone to attend NCYC?

One generous young person from WA has given $3,000 to assist people to attend the convention. The money will be equally shared between overseas, rural and Aboriginal delegates.

Another person has donated $1,600. Our thanks to both individuals for their generosity and support.

Attention: Tent city delegates

ORGANISERS have confirmed four beach-side tent cities at Brighton, West Beach (2) and Henley Beach.

If you're planning to stay in a tent city — don't forget it's BYO crockery and cutlery (not to mention a tent!).

Small group leaders

THE good news is ... over 50 people from across the country have signed up as small group leaders. The bad news is ... we need another 250!

Well, it's not entirely bad news. We know that there are plenty of potential small group leaders reading L'Edge - all you need to do now is contact the NCYC office and sign up.

Mission Mart

THE Mission Mart will be just one of the many features of NCYC '95. Each Synod will promote its mission opportunities for young people through displays at the mart.

There will also be opportunities for you to talk to young people who have been involved in mission projects like About Face and Interns in Mission.

Song book out soon

THE NCYC '95 music team are in the process of recording songs and publishing the official NCYC song book.

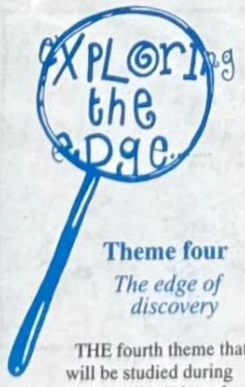
Both the songbook and tape will be released in the near future. Watch this space for more details.

Help needed

DELEGATES travelling to Australia for NCYC will be partnered with a "brother" or "sister" during the convention.

Organisers hope that this will make it easier for overseas delegates to adjust to their new environment.

Anyone attending NCYC can volunteer to be a "brother" or "sister." If you would like to be involved contact the NCYC '95 office.



Theme four

The edge of discovery

THE fourth theme that will be studied during NCYC is *The Edge of Discovery*. This theme encourages people to be creative and to soar on the wind of the Spirit; to go with God and explore the creative edges of our lives.

The Edge of Discovery enables participants to discover their creative gifts and to find new and exciting ways to use them. To do this people will need to recognise the partnership that we have with God, the creator.

To enhance our own creativity we need to communicate with the mighty creator.

This also involves thinking of creative alternatives to overcome the world's ways.

Most of all, it means improving communication with God through prayer.

The focal readings for this theme are Acts 1 and 2. These readings examine the way in which the Holy Spirit, the promised gift from God, transformed and changed people's lives.

The readings show how the Holy Spirit was poured out on people and enabled them to have prophesies, dreams and visions, irrespective of age or gender.

This theme will also explore how we need to ask the Holy Spirit to come upon us, so we may be blessed with dreams and visions.

Other bible readings from Luke will examine the way the Holy Spirit changes lives.

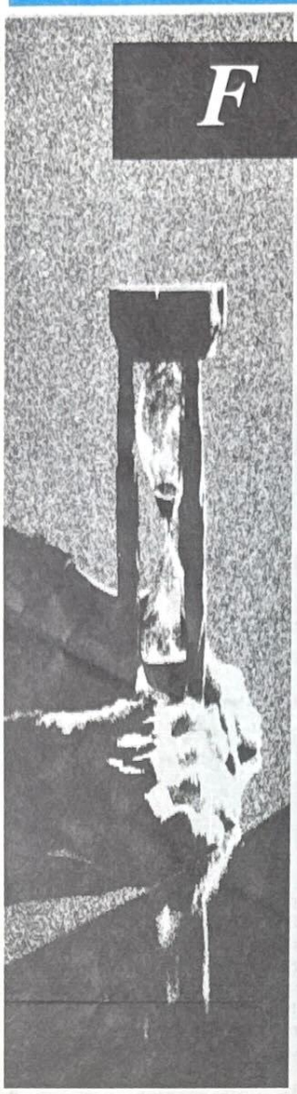
We will be encouraged to put into practice what the Lord has taught us, otherwise we may not be open to what the Spirit is calling us to do.

This theme promises to be a challenging one, asking participants to be open to what God is saying to them and to use their creative gifts.

Participants will also be given an opportunity to respond to God.

— Megan Kirk

FREE



Free from guilt, free from stain
Able to begin again.
Bound no more by what's been before
I am, I am ...

Free at last, clean within
I am not obliged to sin.
Free by grace to gaze on your face
I am, I am ...

Free to really love you
Free to be your servant too.
Free to make the same mistakes
But free to grow.
I don't have to go there again.

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top 10

TOP 10 THINGS YOU WON'T BE EATING AT NCYC'95

By Lisa Chapman

1. Salad rolls every day.
2. Brussels sprouts.
3. The caterers.
4. Haggis.
5. Tripe.
6. Fish heads.
7. Eel.
8. Stewed prunes.
9. Cold pea soup.
10. The real Eddie the Edgehog!

Prayer Points

- Pray for small group leaders as they prepare for NCYC and for the recruitment of new people to join the team.
- Thank God for the community musicians who have volunteered from all over Australia.
- Pray for overseas delegates as they book flights and prepare to come to Australia.
- Pray for the Festival team as they coordinate the Festival program for the convention.
- Thank God for the elective leaders who have volunteered their time and talents for the convention.

the edge - HOT! WARNING!
G'day (puff) what a view! I can see delegates all the way from Melbourne from up here!
MELBOURNE
the caterers have let me climb the stockpile of food for NCYC'95!
CEREAL
It'll be amazing! 2000 people in one spot eating at the same time!
BATTLE
BATTLE
there will be some thing for everyone no matter your taste
they've even catered for me!

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So much is happening with NCYC '95, that we couldn't fit it all in! If you want an update on any other NCYC information, please contact Rebecca or Stu at the Convention office on (08) 212 4066, or write to: NCYC '95, GPO Box 2145, Adelaide, South Australia, 5001.

ALTA MIRA FM 107·9 proudly supports NCYC'95